

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6039

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PREORIA 4993

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, AFSP

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF SECURITY POSTURE AT JOHANNESBURG -
 ADDITIONAL PROJECT FUNDING

REF: A) PRETORIA 3911, B) STATE 235031, C) MOORE/ GREEN
 TELCON OF 2 NOVEMBER

1. REF A. OUTLINED PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH SECOND RECEPTION
BOOTH IN JOHANNESBURG CONSULATE RECEPTION AREA TO SEPARATE
RECEPTION AND VISA FUNCTIONS, TO REDUCE THE EXISTING VISITOR
BOTTLENECK EFFECT, AND TO PRESERVE ORIGINAL SECURITY CONCEPT
OF ALL VISITORS BEING INITIALLY AND EFFECTIVELY SCREENED BY
CONGEN PERSONNEL IN PROTECTED RECEPTION BOOTHS. REF B PROVIDED
FUNDS FOR THAT PROJECT.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO PLANNING OF PROJECT OUTLINED REF A, CONGEN
AND RSO/PRETORIA DECIDED TO INCORPORATE PROJECT OUTLINED
REF A WITH FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTORS PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE
THE RECEPTION AREA TO ALLIEVIATE CONGESTED RECEPTION AREA
PROBLEM. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CONGESTED RECEPTION
AREA IS THE ROOT PROBLEM UNDERMINING PHYSICAL SECURITY,
PARTICULARLY ACCESS CONTROL SECURITY, AT JOHANNESBURG. INCOR-
PORATION WAS DONE BY ALTERING ORIGINAL PLANS TO ENTAIL
KNOCKING OUT ONE INTERNAL PARTITION WALL AND CONSTRUCTING
SECOND RECEPTION BOOTH DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM THE ORIGINAL BOOTH,
BUT ALONG THE OUTSIDE WALL OF THE ENLARGED RECEPTION AREA
RATHER THAN ALONG THE WALL OF THE CURRENT RECEPTION AREA.

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3. LOCAL CONTRACTOR STATES THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF DOLS 3,060 WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE JOHANNESBURG PROJECT. THE INCREASED COSTS PERTAIN TO THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE RECEPTION AREA AND ENLARGEMENT OF THE SECOND BULLET-RESISTANT RECEPTION BOOTH, BOTH OF WHICH WILL SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT AND IMPROVE THE POST'S SECURITY POSTURE. REF C TELCON PROVIDED ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PROJECT JUSTIFICATION. IT IS STRONGLY URGED THAT THESE ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE PROVIDED SOONEST IN ORDER THAT PLANNED RENOVATIONS NEED NOT BE DELAYED. PROJECT SCHEDULED COMMENCE ON NOVEMBER 5. REQUEST REPLY BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.
BOWDLER

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